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BROADWOODWIDGER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER

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## BROADWOODWIDGER RURAL DISTRICT

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER

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Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I beg to present the annual report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1938.

The general health of the inhabitants throughout the year was good, and no outbreak of serious infectious disease was recorded.

#### General Statistics & Social Conditions.

Medical Officer of Health -

Dr. E.D. Allen Price M. B. Ch. B. B. D. P. H.

Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor -

Mr. T. A. Judd. M. R. S. I.

Area (Statute Acres)

29294  
1995.

Registrar General's Estimate of Population

1955

No. of inhabited houses

560

Rateable Value

4031

Product of Penny Rate

£17. 11. 5.

The district is entirely devoted to Agriculture and Industries dependant thereon.

#### Vital Statistics

Twenty three Children were born during the year - six boys and seventeen girls.

<u>Live Births</u>	Legitimate	22
	Illegitimate	1

<u>Birth Rate</u>	per 1000 population	11.8
	England & Wales	15.1

<u>Still-births</u>	1
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<u>Still-birth rate</u>	41.7
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<u>Deaths</u>	-	there were 25. deaths during the year
		- 14. males and 11. females.

<u>Death Rate</u>	12.9
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do.	(Adjusted)	11.7
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do.	England & Wales	11.6
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One death occurred from puerperal sepsis.

Rate per 1000 births	40.7
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Two infants died under one year of age.

Death Rate per 1000 births	81.4
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## Vital Statistics (Continued)

Deaths - The chief causes of death were:-

Cancer	6.
Heart	4.
Old Age	4.
Nephritis	3.

There were no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough, or Infantile Diarrhoea.

## General provision of Health Services

The District being entirely Rural and comparatively small, no Institutional provisions are provided within its boundaries. Arrangements have been made with neighbouring Authorities for the reception of infectious cases. General Hospital services are supplied either by the neighbouring town of Launceston or one of the cities in the county. The County Council maintain a Laboratory for testing Milk and analysing water.

## Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

The only cases notified during the year were:-

Pneumonia	2.
Puerperal Fever	2.
Erysipelas	1.

No case was admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

## Tuberculosis

No death from this cause was recorded.

Two new cases were notified - One Pulmonary case in a female aged 35 years, and one Non- Pulmonary in a female of 26 years.

At the end of the year eight cases remained on the Register.

As my duties did not commence until October 1st, the sections dealing with Sanitary circumstances, - Housing, - Inspection and supervision of Food, have very kindly been undertaken by Mr.Judd.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E.D. ALLEN-PRICE





## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To The Chairman & Members of the  
Broadwoodwider Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual  
Report and Summary of Work carried out during the year 1938:-

### HOUSING

The chief event has been the erection and occupation of the first Council houses to be built in the District. Two houses were completed at East Panson, St.Giles-in-the-Heath, to accommodate displaced persons from Condemned property.

One of the displaced families found alternative accommodation, and the vacant cottage was offered to the only overcrowded family in the Parish. The Council's offer was accepted and the overcrowding abated.

In future Council houses I would suggest that a different type of Cooking Range be installed. The old - fashioned American range type is wasteful of coal & heat, besides being a comfortless sort of fire for a family to have to sit by during winter evenings.

The only private building in the District during 1938 has been:-

- 1) The erection of an agricultural cottage at Hurrell, Werrington.
- 2) The erection of a ~~fram~~ bungalow at Langdon, Werrington.
- 3) Addition to a cottage at Box's Shop, St.Giles-in-the-Heath.

A Demolition Order was served on the owner of a cottage at Caudworthy, Northpetherwin. The displaced Tenant found accommodation elsewhere, and the Council accepted an undertaking that the cottage would not be re-let for human habitation.

### Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.

The re-conditioning of a further three cottages under the Housing (Rural Workers') Acts has been completed. The Cottages are situated as follows:-

Downgate, Northpetherwin.  
Middle Wheatley, Northpetherwin.  
Bradaford Lake, Virginstowe.

The above makes a total of twelve cottages re-conditioned under the Housing (Rural Workers') Acts. The response of property owners to take advantage of the free Grant of £100 under these Acts, is still poor.

### General Housing

58. Cottages were inspected during the year. Of these one has been closed for human habitation, & 2. were not in all respects fit for occupation. At the end of the year 12 of these had been repaired by informal action, & one by formal action.





## Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1938.

I desire to bring to your notice that there are now two ways by which owners of Agricultural property may obtain Grants for improving the housing conditions of their workmen.

The first is by re-conditioning old cottages or even by turning buildings which have not previously been used for habitation into cottages. Here the Grant available is as much as £100 per cottage, payable on completion of work. There appears to be a feeling amongst certain owners that this £100 is only a loan and has to be repaid; such an impression is entirely INCORRECT, the £100 is a FREE CASH GRANT.

Under certain conditions, private owners may now receive assistance under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1938 if they intend to erect NEW Agricultural cottages for their workmen. This assistance may be payable at the rate of £10 a year for a period of 40 years for each house.

The chief requirements necessary to obtain the Grant are that the house:-

- (1) Is reserved for Agricultural Workmen.
- (2) Is suitable in respect of size and construction.
- (3) Is let at a rent as ordered by the Agricultural Wages Committee as being the value at which the benefit of a cottage is to be reckoned as payment of wages in lieu of payment of cash. At the present time this is 3/- a week.

No Grant can be given if work is started before the consent of the Local Authority is received.

Full information upon either of the above Acts will be given to anyone applying at my Office.

### HOUSING STATISTICS.

#### Section D. Housing.

- (1) Inspection of dwelling houses during the year
  - (i) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected during the year for housing defects \_\_\_\_\_ 58.
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. \_\_\_\_\_ 149.
  - (ii) (a) Number of dwelling houses ( included under sub-head (i) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 \_\_\_\_\_ 49.
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose \_\_\_\_\_ 53.
  - (iii) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation \_\_\_\_\_ 1.
  - (iv) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation - 21.



## Housing Statistics (Cont.)

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:-

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officer. \_\_\_\_\_ 12.

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs\_ 1.
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By owners \_\_\_\_\_ 1.
- (b) By Local Authority in default \_\_\_\_\_ Nil.

### Proceedings under Public Health Acts

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. \_\_\_\_\_ 2.
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices:-
- (a) By owners \_\_\_\_\_ 1.
- (b) By Local Authority in default. \_\_\_\_\_ Nil.

### Proceedings under Sec.11 & 13. of the Housing Act 1936

- (1) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made \_\_\_\_\_ 1.
- (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders \_\_\_\_\_ Nil.

### Proceedings under Sec. 12. of the Housing Act 1936

- (1) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. \_\_\_\_\_ Nil.
- (2) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit. \_\_\_\_\_ Nil.

### OVERCROWDING.

From my last year's Report there were left in the District 2. cases of overcrowding. One of these has been abated by a family removing to a Council house. One further case of overcrowding was reported during the year.

### MEAT INSPECTION.

There are three private Slaughterhouses in the District and no Butchers' Shops.

162. Visits were paid for the purpose of meat inspection and it was found necessary to condemn the following:-

4. Sheep carcasses & offal.  
6. Pig's Heads.  
1. Hind-quarter of beef.  
A few diseased organs.



## WATER SUPPLIES.

There are no public water supplies in the District.

53. Visits were made for the purpose of inspecting private supplies, and 14. samples of water were taken for analysis.

## MILK PRODUCTION.

The present register of Cowkeepers and Dairymen is not accurate; a survey is being carried out from which an up-to-date register will be compiled.

There are only two producers of Accredited Milk - a dismal fact to have to record.

The question of milk production was dealt with at length in my 1937 report; there is little to add at the present time.

The number of inspections during the year, was:-

Cowshouses	198.	Dairies	34.
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28. Informal Notices were served and one Statutory Notice.

During the year 14. Cowsheds were provided with good concrete floors and channels. These Cowsheds were situated in the following parishes:-

Broadwoodwidge	...	...	6.
St.Giles-in-the-Heath	...	...	5.
Northcott Hamlet	...	...	2
Werrington	...	...	1.

## SCHOOLS.

There are 5. Schools in the District, to which 18. visits have been paid.

During the year the Schools at North Petherwin, and St.Giles in the Heath have had their pail closets converted into properly flushed W.C's.

In December the heating arrangements at Werrington School were found to be most unsatisfactory. At the time of one visit the temperature was only 40 degrees, whilst on another day it was not until after 1.0'clock that the thermometer registered more than 40. degrees.

Additional facilities for heating the main classroom have now been installed.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. A. JUDD.

Sanitary Inspector.

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